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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/552,887	04/20/2000	Gregory Kowalick	G1131/20001	5005

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EXAMINER

DASS, HARISH T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3628

DATE MAILED: 04/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/552,887

Applicant(s)

KOWALICK, GREGORY

Examiner

Harish T Dass

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 April 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 4-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crevelt et al (Hereinafter Crevelt: US 5,902,983) in view of Soltest et al (Hereinafter Soltest: US 2001/0011680 A1).

Regarding claims 1, 17 and 24, Crevelt discloses methods and apparatus for controlling monetary transactions on gaming machines and employing electronic funds transfer systems directly coupled to gaming machines for the purpose of obtaining playing credit, input means, registration apparatus connected to a central computer having a central data repository [Abs; C3 L19-L42; C9 L1-L30], providing the plurality of gaming apparatus, each gaming apparatus connected to said central computer, each gaming apparatus having at least one gaming apparatus [C1 L27-L30], storing data created by the input means in the central data repository, inputting into the payment input means and, amount of money; and storing the amount of money input in a unique player's account in the central computer, identifying said player at one of said plurality of gaming apparatus by said player entering a gaming apparatus biometric sample input

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into said one of said plurality of gaming apparatus biometric input means and comparing it to said unique biometric data stored in said central data repository, authorizing said player at said one of said plurality of gaming apparatus to play on said one of said plurality of gaming apparatus, debiting and or crediting said unique player's account based on the player's wins and losses at the gaming apparatus until said player logs off using said player logo: means or until said player's account is exhausted, and paying said player any money remaining in said player's account after said player no longer desires to play, whereby a player can move to another of the plurality of gaming apparatus, input a biometric sample into one of the at least one gaming apparatus biometric input means, play the gaming apparatus for a period of time, and log off the gaming apparatus, said unique player's account being credited and debited for wins and losses on the gaming apparatus [Abs; Fig. 1-2, 4-5; C1 L6 to C2 L29; C3 L12 to C4 L30; C4 L 54 to 63]. Crevelt, explicitly, does not disclose kiosks and providing a biometric registration apparatus having at least one registration biometric input means, player logoff means. However, Soltest discloses self service kiosk, providing a biometric registration apparatus having at least one registration biometric input means, player logoff means [Abs; C1 para. 0002-0006, 0010-0014; C3 para. 0037-0038]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the Applicant's invention was made to modify the disclosure of Crevelt and include ability of biometric input means, as taught by Soltest, to secure the player fund and credit card from unauthorized use. Further, it is well known that ATM are activated (user registering) by inserting valid

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credit card and user is log off when the credit card (debit card or smart card) is removed from ATM.

Regarding claims 4-5, and 25-26 Crevelt discloses where the step of paying said player money remaining in said player's account includes providing a payout machine having a payout input means and where the step of providing the payout machine includes providing a payout machine that is integral to at least one of said casino gaming apparatus [C3 L12-L67].

Regarding claims 6, 18 and 27 Crevelt, explicitly, does not disclose where the steps including providing the registration biometric input means and the gaming apparatus biometric input means that utilize fingerprints; hand pants, retina scans, or voice prints. However, Soltest discloses self service kiosk, and where the steps including providing the registration biometric input means and the gaming apparatus biometric input means that utilize fingerprints; hand pants, retina scans, or voice prints [Abs; C1 para. 0002-0006; C3 para. 0037-0038]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the Applicant's invention was made to modify the disclosure of Crevelt and include ability of biometric input means, as taught by Soltest, to positively verify the players identity to protect the players play and fund.

Regarding claims 7-8, 19-20, and 28-29 Crevelt discloses where the step including providing the payment input means includes providing a payment input means

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that accepts credit cards, debit cards, or money access cards and where the step including providing the payment input means includes providing a payment input means that accepts currency [C1 L6 to C2 L13].

Regarding claims 9-10 and 30-31 Crevelt discloses where the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus includes providing slot machines and video gaming machines [C1 L39-L47; C3 L1-L11; C4 L53-L67], and where the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus includes providing generic access machines [C11 L35-L52].

Regarding claims 11-12, Crevelt discloses the step of collecting player data related to players' use of said plurality of casino gaming apparatus to the central computer having the central data repository, and where the player data collected includes data concerning type of casino gaming apparatus, quantity of casino gaming apparatus played, time spent on each casino gaming apparatus, and money spent on each casino gaming apparatus [C5 L35-L40; C6 L41-L65].

Regarding claims 13-14 and 21-22 Crevelt discloses including the step of purging the unique biometric data and the unique player's account from the central computer after the step of paying said player any money remaining in said player's account, to provide for privacy of the player, and including the step of providing a keypad on the

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biometric registration apparatus for using a PIN and wherein the step of registering a player includes entering a PIN [C7 L52 to C9 L29].

Regarding claim 15, Crevelt discloses wherein the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus includes providing gaming apparatus having a video screen for displaying information related to the player's unique player's account [C1 L6-L17; C3 L19-L28].

Regarding claim 16, Crevelt discloses where the step of providing a registration apparatus connected to an account at a financial institution network [C1 L26-L38; C1 L65 to C2 L13; C5 L17-CL40]. Crevelt, explicitly, does not disclose providing a biometric registration apparatus. However, Soltest discloses self-service kiosk providing a biometric registration apparatus [Abs; C1 para. 0002-0006; C3 para. 0037-0038]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the Applicant's invention was made to modify the disclosure of Crevelt and include biometric input means, as taught by Soltest, to positively verify the players identity.

Regarding claim 23 Crevelt discloses display [C1 L6-L17; C3 L19-L27]. Crevelt, explicitly, does not disclose wherein the step of providing the plurality of kiosks includes providing kiosks having a video screen for displaying information related to the user's unique user's account. However, Soltest discloses self service kiosk and wherein the step of providing the plurality of kiosks includes providing kiosks having a video screen

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for displaying information related to the user's unique user's account [Abs; Fig. 1; C2 paragraphs 0006, 0016-0017, 0028].

Claims 2-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crevelt in view of Soltest, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Theimer et al (US Pat 5,603,054)

Regarding claims 2-3, Crevelt discloses control buttons. Neither Crevelt nor Soltest, explicitly, disclose wherein the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus with the player log off means includes providing a player logoff proximity sensor. However it is well know the gambling machines do have reset button. Further, Theimer et al discloses wherein the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus with the player log off means includes providing a player logoff proximity sensor and wherein the step of providing the plurality of gaming apparatus with the player logoff means includes providing a player logoff button [Abs, C1 L34 to C2 L67; C27 L1-L67]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the Applicant's invention was made to modify the disclosure of Crevelt and include means for logoff (logging off), as taught by Theimer et al, to reset, turn off or stop the game while the player is away from the machine.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 CFR ' 1.111 (c) to consider the references fully when responding to this action.

US 6,523,745 B1 to Tamori, Feb 25, 2003 "Electronic transaction system including a fingerprint identification encoding". This invention discloses an apparatus and process of authorizing an electronic transaction system includes a computer located at the site of a transaction, a conversion module for enabling connection between the computer located at the site of the transaction and the conversion module to authorize the transaction, and a connection between the conversion module and the computer at the site of the transaction. The system uses fingerprint input data panel for obtaining fingerprint input data from a finger impressed on the fingerprint input data panel and converts the fingerprint input data to characteristic fingerprint points including minutiae. These characteristic fingerprint points including minutiae are used in conjunction with at least one code at the conversion module to encode messages sent across the system.

US 6,269,348 B1 to Pare et al, July 31, 2001 "Tokenless biometric electronic debit and credit transactions". This invention provides a method and device for tokenless authorization of an electronic payment between a payor and a payee using an electronic third party identifier and at least one payor biometric sample. The method comprises a payor registration step, wherein the payor registers with an

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electronic third party identifier at least one registration biometric sample, and at least one payor credit/debit account. The payee registers a payee identification data with the electronic third party identifier. An electronic financial transaction is formed between the payor and the payee, comprising payee bid identification data, a transaction amount, and at least one payor bid biometric sample, wherein the bid biometric sample is obtained from the payor's person, in a transaction formation step. The payee bid identification data, the transaction amount, and payor bid biometric sample are electronically forwarded to the third party electronic identifier. A comparator engine compares the bid biometric sample with at least one registered biometric sample for producing either a successful or failed identification of the payor. The comparator engine also compares the payee's bid identification data with a payee's registered identification data for producing either a successful or failed identification of the payee. Once the device successfully identifies the payor and payee, a biometric-based authorization of an electronic payment is issued without the payor presenting any personalized man-made tokens such as magnetic swipe cards or smartcards to transfer funds from the payor's financial credit/debit account to the payee's financial account.

US 5,960,085 to de la Hueraga, Sep. 28, 1999 "Security badge for automated access control and secure data gathering". This invention discloses a system utilizing a personal identification badge to collect data and to provide access to a computer terminal. The personal identification badge includes circuitry and transceiver components for transmitting identification information and exchanging other digital information with a computer terminal and other compatible devices. The personal

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identification badge establishes a wireless communication link with a computer terminal to allow a user to logon to the terminal. When a user leaves the computer terminal, the communication link is terminated, causing the computer terminal to lock the keyboard, blank the monitor, and/or logoff the user if the communication link is not restored within a sufficient time period. The personal identification badge includes means for encrypting and signing digital information. Adapted for use within a hospital, the system provides further means for establishing an affiliation between a personal identification badge and a patient, for collecting digital information from electronic devices that record or gather data regarding the status of a patient, for digitizing and recording dictation spoken into the personal identification badge, and for modifying the digital information so collected to conform to standards, such as those of a Java applet or the hypertext markup language, for interactive display on a universal display browser.

US 6,318,536 B1 to Korman et al, Nov. 20, 2001 "Multi-transaction coin machine". This invention discloses a multi-transaction coin machine is provided which accepts a number of coins, counts the coins and displays the value to a user. The user is presented a variety of options in exchange for the coins, including a receipt redeemable for cash, or a variety of electronic financial transactions, including paying bills or purchasing tickets. The multi-transaction coin machine is an innovation in self-service convenience, efficiency and functionality, providing the services of a variety of machines, such as coin machines, ATMs, ticket services, and bill paying services all in a single user-operated machine.

US 5,265,874 to Dickinson et al, Nov. 30, 1993 "Cashless gaming apparatus and method". This invention discloses a cashless gaming apparatus and method suitable for casinos. A player hands over money and an ID card to a clerk at a validation terminal. The clerk stores the ID number and the amount of money in the memory of the validation terminal. Then the clerk returns the ID card to the player for operating any one of a number of game terminals. The player then selects a game terminal which reads the player's ID card, whereupon the cash amount from the validation terminal is downloaded to the selected game terminal and the game terminal can then be played. If the player wishes to play another game terminal, the player actuates a cashout switch on the current terminal. The player then moves to another game terminal and the player's ID card is read into the second game terminal, whereupon the money remaining as a cash amount is downloaded to the second game terminal. The player can then play the second game terminal. When the player wishes to stop play of the game terminals completely, the player actuates the cashout switch of the last game terminal played. The player presents his ID card to the clerk at the validation terminal and the validation terminal reads the ID card. A ticket showing the card number and the cash amount is printed and the player is paid the cash amount on the spot. The printed ticket is then used for reconciliation.

The Risks digest, Forum on Risks to the Public in Computers and Related Systems - ACM Committee on Computers and Public Policy, Peter G. Neumann, moderator, Volume 18: Issue 16, Saturday 1 June 1996

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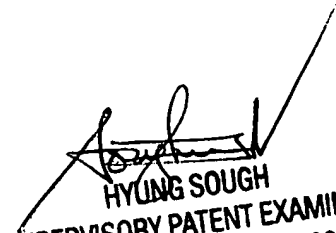
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harish T Dass whose telephone number is 703-305-4694. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:50 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S Sough can be reached on 703-308-0505. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

Harish T Dass *HTD*
Examiner
Art Unit 3628

3/18/03
March 19, 2003


HYUNG SOUGH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600